

CAI
CS 700
- 1983
N14

National Joint Council signing
of Health and Safety Standards

ACCOPRESS

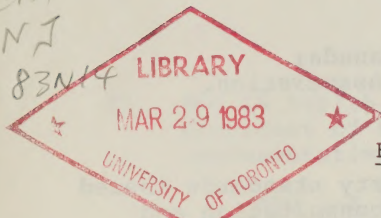
GENUINE PRESSBOARD BINDER

CAT. NO. **BY 2507 EMB**

ACCO CANADIAN COMPANY LTD.
TORONTO

OGDENSBURG, N.Y., CHICAGO, LONDON
MEXICO CITY D.F., UTRECHT

March 23, 1983



BACKGROUND PAPER

NATIONAL JOINT COUNCIL SIGNING OF HEALTH AND
SAFETY STANDARDS

BACKGROUND

1. The National Joint Council (NJC) of the Public Service of Canada is a consultative body created by Order in Council in 1944. Its purpose is to promote the efficiency of the Public Service and the well-being of its employees by providing for regular consultation between the Federal Government, as the employer, and unions certified as bargaining agents under the Public Service Staff Relations Act (PSSRA).
2. The NJC consults on many matters of which it is desirable to have the same policy apply throughout the Public Service. As such, a wide variety of policies, directives and standards dealing with physical working conditions, occupational health and safety, travel and relocation provisions, health insurance, Crown-owned housing, etc., have been consulted upon within the NJC since the 1940s.
3. Senior Treasury Board Secretariat officers represent the Federal Government on the NJC. The 12 unions participating in Council activities are represented by elected officers, and in most cases, the presidents of the unions. The 12 participating unions are:
 - Canadian Air Traffic Control Association;
 - Canadian Merchant Service Guild;
 - Canadian Union of Professional and Technical Employees;
 - Council of Graphic Arts Unions of the Public Service of Canada;
 - Economists', Sociologists' and Statisticians' Association;
 - Federal Government Dockyard Trades and Labour Council (East);
 - Federal Government Dockyard Trades and Labour Council (West);
 - Local 2228, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers;
 - Professional Association of Foreign Service Officers;
 - Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada;


- Public Service Alliance of Canada;
- Research Council Employees' Association.

HEALTH AND SAFETY MATTERS

4. All Public Service health and safety standards issued to date have been subject to NJC consultation and concurrence.
5. Following Government policy, it has, since 1968, been a Federal Government objective to ensure that the health and safety regulations and requirements of the Canada Labour Code are applied as minimum standards within the Public Service.
6. In the Fall of 1981, employer representatives on the NJC proposed to the participating unions that those Treasury Board health and safety standards based upon Canada Labour Code Regulations be given the same legal status as articles of a collective agreement. Although the standards are approved by Treasury Board Ministers, this proposal has the advantage of extending legal status to the health and safety standards. Also, Public Service employee grievances in respect of alleged violations or non-application of a standard will be referable to third-party adjudication under the provisions of the Public Service Staff Relations Act.
7. In the Spring of 1982, unions participating in the NJC accepted the Government's proposal and agreed that formal signing of standards would provide legal status in respect to the application of the standards.
8. During the course of 1982, meetings were held between representatives of the Treasury Board Secretariat and the unions to identify those standards to be signed and which would, therefore, be formally deemed to become automatically part of every collective agreement.
9. At the NJC meeting of December 1, 1982, the NJC parties agreed that 16 standards would be signed and be part of collective agreements. At the National Joint Council meeting of March 2, 1983, the NJC parties agreed on a schedule which ensures that the 16 standards are reviewed and updated on a regular basis. Close to 200,000 Public Service employees in 76 bargaining units will benefit from this process.

10. The 16 health and safety standards signed by the President of the Treasury Board and union representatives on March 23, 1983 are:

- STD 3-1 Boilers and Pressure Vessels
- STD 3-2 Dangerous Substances
- STD 3-3 Electrical Standards
- STD 3-4 Elevating Devices
- STD 3-5 First Aid
- STD 3-6 Hand Tools and Portable Power Tools
- STD 3-7 Hazardous Confined Spaces
- STD 3-9 Machine-Guarding
- STD 3-10 Materials-Handling
- STD 3-11 Motor Vehicle Operations
- STD 3-12 Noise Control and Hearing Conservation
- STD 3-14 Personal Protective Equipment
- STD 3-15 Pesticides
- STD 3-16 Elevated Work Structures
- STD 3-17 Use and Occupancy of Buildings
- STD 3-18 Sanitation



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2022 with funding from
University of Toronto

<https://archive.org/details/31761115533556>

